

Editorial Department.

THE present number closes the eighth volume of this JOURNAL. It was at first projected under the belief that such a periodical could be made useful. The editors were willing to incur, and to the end have cheerfully accepted, any labor or pecuniary risk involved in its publication. Whether it has answered reasonable expectations, or has been of any service in the department of medicine the interests of which it has sought to advance, others must judge. But the editors have no reason for disappointment when they regard the numerous expressions of favor with which the JOURNAL has been received, and which have reached them from the most competent members of the profession both at home and abroad. Many of these expressions have been peculiarly gratifying.

The JOURNAL has not been of a kind to commend itself to physicians at large. It could not be devoted to promoting the scientific interests of neurological medicine, and at the same time meet the direct practical spirit of the mass of the profession. In view of the fact that the position deliberately chosen for the JOURNAL could not be popular, it was begun and has been continued as a personal enterprise in the midst of much care and under the pressure of other occupations. In justice to ourselves we may be permitted to refer, in a general way, to the difficulties which we have had to encounter, as excuses for the numerous literary and other blemishes which have marred its pages in spite of such care in its make-up as we were able to exercise. Those persons

only who have had practical experience in such matters can justly estimate a situation in which so much labor has been performed by the editors in conducting the JOURNAL.

It may not be amiss at this time to state in a few words the share in the work which has been taken by the active editors respectively.

The periscope department, containing extracts from foreign and home periodicals, and which has been so often commended by our readers, has been almost wholly made up by Dr. Bannister. In the department of reviews, the majority of lengthy book notices have been prepared by Dr. Jewell, who has also written the larger portion of editorial matter. In other respects contributions from either of the editors have been signed with their names.

The editors desire to express their deep sense of obligation to the gentlemen who have kindly lent the influence of their names as associate editors to give the JOURNAL the stamp of authority in the higher walks of the profession. They wish at the same time to express their obligations in no formal manner to the gentlemen who have in every way (especially by their contributions) aided the JOURNAL. They would particularly mention the names of Drs. Hammond, Spitzka, Beard, Kiernan, Ott, and Mason among the many who have freely given of the choicest results of their labors.

Since the first year of its existence the JOURNAL has been the exclusive property of Dr. Jewell. During the past year impaired general health and the pressure of other obligations on his part had led to the determination to transfer the JOURNAL. That determination is now carried into effect. In laying aside a pleasant responsibility voluntarily assumed, the editors wish finally to express their grateful acknowledgment to their subscribers and to all friends of the JOURNAL, wherever they may be, for the interest they have manifested in its welfare.

The JOURNAL has been delayed in its appearance for a month, chiefly with the hope of presenting to our readers the prize essay of Dr. E. C. Spitzka on the *Somatic Etiology of Insanity*, with which to close the present volume. But in this hope we have been dis-

appointed. The above statement is made that our readers may know why the present issue has been so long delayed.

The JOURNAL has now been transferred to Dr. William J. Morton, of New York City, who is both proprietor and editor-in-chief, and who has secured the coöperation, as associate editors, of several of our first neurologists, whose names appear in the accompanying prospectus for the new year.

We would heartily commend the new management to our subscribers and friends everywhere.